(d) the total loss incurred as a result of such export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The Government has not decided to export old wheat and rice to foreign countries from the Central Pool.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir. Issue of fresh allocation of wheat and rice for export purposes from Central Pool has been stopped with effect from 11.08.2003.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Foodgrain Export Policy

4679. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the new foodgrain export policy;

(b) whether the States have been consulted while framing this policy; and

(c) the steps taken to boost export of foodgrains subject to domestic demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) A new foodgrain export policy is at an advanced stage of consideration of the Government.

Availability of wheat at ration shops

4680. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that goods especially wheat is not reaching properly to Governmental ration shops, which adversely affects the life of general people at large; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps taken by Government to maintain timely delivery; and

(c) the details of Governmental ration shops operating in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System

(TPDS) is the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of foodgrains upto the nearest Principal Distribution Centre of FCI in each State/UT, the identification of BPL families, issue of ration cards and distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries through a vast network of more than 4.78 lakh Fair Price Shops (FPS) is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/UTs. In such a vast network the possibility of irregularities cannot be ruled out.

(b) Planning and despatch of the required number of rakes of foodgrains is made by the FCI every month for each consuming State/UT at an optimally feasible level, within the constraints of availability of rakes in order to adequately cater to the requirements of each State/UT under the TPDS and other welfare schemes. Whenever any shortage in the stock or supply of foodgrains is reported in any State, the FCI is advised to prioritize the induction of rakes to such State in addition to requesting the Railway Board to take appropriate remedial action.

(c) The number of FPSs in various States/UTs is available in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Number of FPSs in various States/UTs

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Fair Price Shops		
		Rural	Urban	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NA	NA	40691
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NA	NA	1444
3.	Assam	29322	3907	33229
4.	Bihar	28438	13380	41818
5.	Chhattisgarh	6917	952	7869
6.	Delhi	NA	NA	3126
7.	Goa	383	140	523
8.	Gujarat	NA	NA	14131
9.	Haryana	5153	2379	7532
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3835	302	4137

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of Fair Price Shops		
		Rural	Urban	Total
11.	J & K	NA	NA	3927
12.	Jharkhand	NA	NA	14395
13.	Karnataka	NA	NA	20610
14.	Kerala	NA	NA	14143
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15371	3317	18688
16.	Maharashtra	NA	NA	49921
17.	Manipur	NA	NA	2551
18.	Meghalaya	3655	647	4302
19.	Mizoram	789	237	1026
20.	Nagaland	NA	NA	401
21.	Orissa	NA	NA	25186
22.	Punjab	NA	NA	13874
23.	Rajasthan	15784	5100	20884
24.	Sikkim	NA	NA	1071
25.	Tamil Nadu	NA	NA	27995
26.	Tripura	1247	198	1445
27.	Uttaranchal	6656	676	7332
28.	Uttar Pradesh	56979	17809	74788
29.	West Bengal	NA	NA	20424
30.	A&N Island	329	159	488
31.	Chandigarh	NA	NA	26
32.	D&N Haveli	78	NA	78
33.	Daman & Diu	27	24	51
34.	Lakshdweep	21	14	35
35.	Pondicherry	NA	NA	410
	TOTAL	174984	49241	478551

NA: Separate figures for rural/urban not available.